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Culture of peace

Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Russian Federation, Seychelles and Viet Nam: draft resolution

Implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the Charter of the United Nations, including the purposes and principles contained therein, and especially the dedication to saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

Recalling the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which states that, "since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed",

Recalling also its previous resolutions on a culture of peace, in particular resolution 52/15 of 20 November 1997, proclaiming 2000 the International Year for the Culture of Peace, resolution 53/25 of 10 November 1998, proclaiming the period 2001-2010 the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-violence for the Children of the World, and resolutions 56/5 of 5 November 2001, 57/6 of 4 November 2002, 58/11 of 10 November 2003, 59/143 of 15 December 2004, 60/3 of 20 October 2005, 61/45 of 4 December 2006, 62/89 of 17 December 2007, 63/113 of 5 December 2008 and 64/80 of 7 December 2009, adopted under its agenda item entitled "Culture of peace",

Reaffirming the Declaration[1] and Programme of Action[2] on a Culture of Peace, recognizing that they serve as the universal mandate for the international community, particularly the United Nations system, for the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence that benefits humanity, in particular future generations,

[1] Resolution 53/243 A.
[2] Resolution 53/243 B.

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Reaffirming also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[3] that calls for the active promotion of a culture of peace,

Taking note of the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted at the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly,[4]

Welcoming the observance of 2 October as the International Day of Non-Violence, as proclaimed by the United Nations,[5]

Recognizing that all efforts made by the United Nations system in general and the international community at large for peacekeeping, peacebuilding, the prevention of conflicts, disarmament, sustainable development, the promotion of human dignity and human rights, democracy, the rule of law, good governance and gender equality at the national and international levels contribute greatly to the culture of peace,

Noting that its resolution 57/337 of 3 July 2003 on the prevention of armed conflict could contribute to the further promotion of a culture of peace,

Taking into account the "Manifesto 2000" initiative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization promoting a culture of peace, which has received over seventy-five million signatures of endorsement throughout the world,

Recognizing the importance of respect and understanding for religious and cultural diversity throughout the world, to choose negotiations over confrontation and to work together and not against each other,

Welcoming the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the implementation of its resolution 64/80, as transmitted by the Secretary-General,[6]

Recalling the proclamation by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of 21 February as the International Mother Language Day, which aims at protecting, promoting and preserving linguistic and cultural diversity, and multilingualism, in order to enrich and foster a culture of peace, social harmony, cross-cultural dialogue and mutual understanding,

Welcoming the summary report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization High Panel on Peace and Dialogue among Cultures,[7] convened by the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 18 February 2010,

Appreciating the increased ongoing efforts of the Alliance of Civilizations in promoting a culture of peace through a number of practical projects in the areas of youth, education, media and migrations, in collaboration with Governments, international organizations, foundations and civil society groups, as well as media and corporate leaders,

Appreciating also the increased ongoing efforts of the Tripartite Forum on Interfaith Cooperation in promoting a culture of peace,

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[3] See resolution 55/2.
[4] See resolution 60/1.
[5] See resolution 61/271.
[6] See A/65/299.
[7] A/65/299, annex.

Encouraging the continued and increasing efforts and activities on the part of civil society organizations throughout the world in advancing the culture of peace as envisaged in the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace,[2]

1. *Reiterates* that the objective of the effective implementation of the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace[2] is to strengthen further the global movement for a culture of peace following the observance of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-violence for the Children of the World (2001-2010), and calls upon all concerned that renewed attention be given to this objective;

2. *Invites* Member States to continue to place greater emphasis on and expand their activities promoting a culture of peace at the national, regional and international levels and to ensure that peace and non-violence are fostered at all levels;

3. *Encourages* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, for which the promotion of a culture of peace is the expression of its fundamental mandate to strengthen further the activities it has undertaken for promoting a culture of peace, including the promotion of peace education and the dissemination of the Declaration[1] and Programme of Action[2] on a Culture of Peace and related materials in various languages across the world;

4. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to consider the feasibility of creating a Special Fund under the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to cater to the country-specific projects towards effective promotion of a culture of peace;

5. *Commends* the relevant United Nations bodies, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the University for Peace, for their activities in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, including the promotion of peace education and activities related to specific areas identified in the Programme of Action, and encourages them to continue and further strengthen and expand their efforts;

6. *Encourages* the Peacebuilding Commission to continue to promote peacebuilding activities and advancing a culture of peace and non-violence in post-conflict peacebuilding efforts at the country level;

7. *Urges* the appropriate authorities to provide age-appropriate education, in children's schools, that includes lessons in mutual understanding, tolerance, active citizenship, human rights and the promotion of a culture of peace;

8. *Encourages* the involvement of media, especially the mass media, in promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, with particular regard to children and young people;

9. *Commends* civil society, non-governmental organizations and young people for their activities in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, including through their campaign to raise awareness on a culture of peace, and takes note that one thousand and fifty-four organizations from the civil societies in more than one hundred countries have observed the International Decade, as called for in paragraph 13 of General Assembly resolution 64/80;

10. *Encourages* civil society and non-governmental organizations to further strengthen their efforts for promoting a culture of peace, inter alia, by adopting their own programme of activities to complement the initiatives of Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations in line with the Declaration[1] and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace;[2]

11. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue to enhance the communication and outreach, including through the culture of peace website, along with its efforts to coordinate and implement its activities to promote the objectives of the International Decade at the regional and global levels;

12. *Invites* Member States, all parts of the United Nations system and civil society organizations, including the International Day of Peace NGO Committee at the United Nations, to accord increasing attention in their observance of the International Day of Peace on 21 September each year as a day of global ceasefire and non-violence, in accordance with resolution 55/282 of 7 September 2001;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to explore enhancing mechanisms for the implementation of the Declaration[1] and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace;[2]

14. *Invites* relevant United Nations bodies to continue their efforts in increasing awareness of the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace[2] and its eight areas of action aimed at their implementation;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the actions undertaken on the implementation of the present resolution and on heightened activities carried out by the United Nations and its affiliated agencies to implement the Programme of Action[2] and promote a culture of peace and non-violence;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Culture of peace".